

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

September 13, 2011

In 2010, the U.S. House of Representatives designated the second week of September as “Arts in Education Week” because “[...] arts education, comprising a rich array of disciplines including dance, music, theatre, media arts, literature, design, and visual arts, is a core academic subject and an essential element of a complete and balanced education for all students.”

Cognitive Neuroscientists at seven major universities have found strong links between arts education and cognitive development (e.g. thinking, problem solving, concept understanding, information processing and overall intelligence), and that children motivated in the arts develop attention skills and memory retrieval that also apply to other subject areas.

Research has also indicated that students from under-resourced environments who are highly involved in the arts have better grades, less likelihood of dropping out, have more positive attitudes about school, and are more likely to go on to college.

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MOLINA _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

As reported in the *2010 Otis Report on the Creative Economy of the Los Angeles Region*, the art, design and entertainment industries accounted for one out of six jobs in 2009, “generating an estimated \$127 billion in sales revenues and \$4.6 in state and local tax revenues.”

The Conference Board, a global, independent association of business executives dedicated to creating and disseminating knowledge about management and the marketplace, concludes in its *2007 Ready to Innovate* report that U.S. employers (not just those in the “creative economy”) rate “creativity/innovation” among the top five skills that will increase in importance over the next five years. Specifically they are looking for applicants who are inquisitive, communicative, creative, collaborative, analytical, innovative, problem-solving, self-confident, self-starting, flexible and adaptable to change all attributes of student learning in high-quality, standards-based, sequential arts instruction.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors established *Arts for All* in 2002 to empower school districts and build their capacity to deliver quality arts education to all students, insuring that students have the necessary skills for the County’s 21st Century workforce.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors declare September 11-17, 2011 as Arts Education Week in the County of Los Angeles.

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